

Keesing's Subject Index

Index No. S/2009

SOURCES FOR KEESENG'S RECORD OF WORLD EVENTS

Keesing's research editors constantly monitor a vast range of news sources to ensure a comprehensive and reliable information service. Our sources include the following publications and websites as well as press releases and information from embassies, governments, high commissions, pressure groups, and all major international organisations.

Africa News—Al-Ahram Weekly—Al-Hayat—The Annual Register—Antigua and Barbuda High Commission Newsletter—Arabnews.com—Argentina Star—Asahi Shimbun—The Asian Age newspaper—The Baltic Times—Bangkok Post—BBC Online—BBC Global News Monitoring Service—Brazilink Foundation Weekly News—Caribbean and Central America Report—CBS News—China Daily—CIA Chiefs of State and Cabinet Members—Daily Mail and Guardian (South Africa)—The Daily Star (Bangladesh)—DR1 Dominican Republic Daily News—The Economist—El Khabar (Algeria)—Embassy of Greece Newsletter—El Mercurio—El Pais—Electronic Telegraph—Environmental News Network—EU News—Europa Year Book—Facts on File—Financial Times—Frontline (India)—Global Insight—The Globe and Mail—The Guardian—The Guardian (Nigeria)—Hellenic Resources Network—Iceland Review—ISS Military Balance—The Independent—Inside Costa Rica—Institute for Europe-Latin America Relations—International Foundation for Election Systems—International Herald Tribune—International Monetary Fund website—The Irrawaddy (Burma)—Jakarta Post—The Jerusalem Post (internet edition)—Kommersant (Russia)—La Repubblica—Latin American Caribbean and Central American Report—Latin American Weekly Report—Le Monde Diplomatique—Middle East Economic Digest—The Nation newspaper (Thailand)—NATO website—News from Iceland—New York Times—NRC Handelsblad—The Observer—O Globo—Pacific Islands Report news service—The Portugal News—Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty—South China Morning Post—The Straits Times—Süddeutsche Zeitung Online—Sudan.net—The Times—The Times of India Online—Turkish Daily News—UB Post (Mongolia)—United Nations Information Service—The Washington Post—Western Sahara Weekly News—Whitaker's Almanack—White House and Government Information—The World Bank Group website

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Indonesia:

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Storming of hijacked aeroplane in Mexico City and rescue of all passengers and crew (Sept. 2009) 49396

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- Election of Alyaksei Yanukevich as chairman of opposition Belarusian People's Front (Sept. 2009) 49430
- Formation of new opposition coalition, Belarusian Pro-Independence Bloc (Oct. 2009) 49490

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Resignation:

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- Jean-Luc Dehaene to task of redrawing political boundaries (Nov. 2009) 49542

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- Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture Marcel Cardona (March 2009) 49084

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Foreign relations:

- Signing of agreement with USA on crime reduction (Feb. 2009) 49028

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Royal Privy Council:

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Crash of Air France passenger jet from Rio Janeiro in Atlantic Ocean and loss of 228 people (June 2009) 49251

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- Creation of new body responsible for administration of EU funds and resources (Aug. 2009) 49372
- Protest by dairy farmers demanding payment of subsidies (April 2009) 49168
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- Appointment of Boiko Borisov (July 2009) 49330

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BURMA**Aung San Suu Kyi:**

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- Letter to Than Shwe requesting meeting to discuss lifting of sanctions (Nov. 2009) 49527
- Meeting with Liaison Minister Aung Kyi to discuss offer by Suu Kyi to act as intermediary with foreign diplomats (Oct. 2009) 49468
- Meeting with senior NLD leaders to discuss restructuring of party (Dec. 2009) 49581
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Constitution:

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Economy:

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- Bangladesh
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- China
 - Criticism of military offensive in Shan state (Aug. 2009) 49364
 - Demand that Chinese citizens in Kokang region return to China (Sept. 2009) 49413-14
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- Re-election of Sein Win as leader at fourth congress in Malahide, Ireland (Jan. 2009) 48993

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- Amnesty for over 6,000 prisoners and 23 political prisoners (Feb. 2009) 49037

Karen people:

- Explosion in market in Phapun (Dec. 2009) 49581
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- Maung Bo, Lt-Gen (member of ruling State Peace and Development Council) (May 2009) 49211
- Win Aung (former foreign minister), in prison (Nov. 2009) 49527

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- Formation of new Democratic Party with three daughters of former politicians as secretaries (Sept. 2009) 49413

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- Military offensive against ethnic militias in Shan state (Aug. 2009) 49364

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- Shortfall in aid funds for victims of Cyclone Nargis (May 2009) 49211
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- Visit of UN envoy Ibrahim Gambari attempting to mediate a return to democracy (Feb. 2009) 49036
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- Visit of UN rapporteur Tomas Ojea Quintana to meet political prisoners and Rohingya minority (Feb. 2009) 49037
- Visit of UNHCR Antonio Guterres for discussion of Muslim Rohingya refugees (March 2009) 49095

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- Appointment of former rebel leaders to senior government posts (June 2009) 49244
- New (Jan. 2009) 48968; 48969

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Economy:

- Completion point under IMF HIPC initiative (Jan. 2009) 48969

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- Election of Tite Bucumi as chairman of MSP-Inkinzo (March 2009) 49074

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- Change of name by Hutu rebel group Palipehutu-FNL to FNL (Jan. 2009) 48968-69

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- Resolution 1902 to extend mandate of UN Integrated Office in Burundi (BINUB) (Dec. 2009) 49563

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- Gen. Pol Saroeun as adviser to prime minister (Feb. 2009) 49035
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- Budget (Dec. 2009) 49580

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Foreign relations:

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Human rights:

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Immigration and asylum:

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- New defence agreement with France (May 2009) 49191

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Disaster:

- Evacuation of 17,000 people in Kelowna because of wildfires (July 2009) 49311

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- Budget (Jan. 2009) 48976
- Economic stimulus package (Jan. 2009) 48976

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- Provincial
- British Columbia (May 2009) 49193
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House of Commons:

- Survival by Conservative government of vote of confidence (Oct. 2009) 49452

Immigration and asylum:

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- Le Blanc, Romeo (former governor general) (June 2009) 49249

Prime Minister:

- Survival of vote of confidence (Feb. 2009) 49031

Provinces:

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- Inauguration of Greg Selinger as premier (Oct. 2009) 49452
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- Grant to government of leave to appeal against ruling on return of Guantanamo detainee (Sept. 2009) 49395

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Foreign relations:

- Visit of Chinese delegations (Feb. 2009) 49031

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Appointment:

- Julianna O'Connor-Connolly as deputy premier (Nov. 2009) 49515

Constitution:

- Approval by referendum of new constitution (Nov. 2009) 49515

Economy:

- Agreement with UK to address double taxation and "fiscal evasion" (June 2009) 49252

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- Legislative (May 2009) 49197

Prime Minister:

- Swearing in of McKeever Bush (Nov. 2009) 49515

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- New (Jan. 2009) 48970

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Reaching of completion point under HIPC initiative (July 2009) 49303

Obituary:

Goumba, Abel (former vice-president and leader of Patriotic Front for Progress) (May 2009) 49191

Political parties:

Launch by President François Bozize of new party (Aug. 2009) 49349

Prime Minister:

Reappointment of Faustin-Archange Touadera (Jan. 2009) 48970

Security:

Arrest in Chad of senior politician Charles Massi (June 2009) 49240

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Resolution 1861 to extend mandate of UN mission MINURCAT (Jan. 2009) 48970-71

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Meeting, Moscow

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Last-minute boycott by Belarus (June 2009) 49257

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Angry reaction by Tajikistan to withdrawal of Uzbekistan from Central Asian electricity grid (Nov. 2009) 49532

International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea:

Summit in Almaty to discuss water supplies and use (April 2009) 49154-55

Shanghai Co-operation Organisation:

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Foreign relations:

Accusation of Sudanese military assault (May 2009) 49188

Agreement to normalise relations with Sudan (May 2009) 49188

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Malloum, Gen. Felix Ngakoutou (former head of state and prime minister) (June 2009) 49246

Political parties:

Appointment of Negoum Yamassoum as secretary general of ruling Patriotic Salvation Movement (Nov. 2009) 49505

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Further fighting in eastern Chad (May 2009) 49188

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Signing of peace deal by three rebel groups under sponsorship of Libya (July 2009) 49304-05

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War crimes:

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Ireland, Republic of:

Offer by major order of nuns to pay compensation for abuse in schools and orphanages (Dec. 2009) 49590

Pledge by 18 religious orders to establish compensation fund for victims of abuse (June 2009) 49280

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UN:

Security Council Resolution 1882

On protection of children affected by armed conflict (Aug. 2009) 49383

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Appointment:

José Antonio Viera-Gallo as policy co-ordinator for indigenous affairs (Sept. 2009) 49398

Cabinet:

Reshuffle (March 2009) 49081

Economy:

Budget (Oct. 2009) 49453

Stimulus package to increase public expenditure and create jobs (Jan. 2009) 48981

Education:

New legislation to overhaul Constitutional Organic Law of Teaching (Aug. 2009) 49353

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Chamber of Deputies (Dec. 2009) 49566-67

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Cuba

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Signing of bilateral agreements on renewable energy, education, space and geology (March 2009) 49081

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Human rights:

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Obituary:

Allende, Hortensia Bussi de (widow of former President Salvador Allende) (June 2009) 49252

Security:

Arrest of 25 officials of former National Intelligence Directorate (Sept. 2009) 49398

Charging of Carabineros officer over death of Mapuche activist (Aug. 2009) 49353

Charging of four doctors and two others in connection with 1982 death of former President Eduardo Frei (Dec. 2009) 49567

Criticism of use of anti-terrorist legislation against Mapuche protestors (Sept. 2009) 49398

Trial:

Sentencing of four former military officials for murder of army officer in Croatian arms deal case (Oct. 2009) 49453

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Celebrations to mark founding of People's Republic of China (Oct. 2009) 49464

Appointment:

Yuan Guiren as minister of education (Nov. 2009) 49522

Baby milk scandal:

Offer of compensation to parents (Jan. 2009) 48989

Sentencing of two people to death for contaminating milk with melamine (Jan. 2009) 48989

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Change (Nov. 2009) 49522

Chinese Communist Party (CCP):

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No formal announcement of appointment of Xi Jinping as vice chairman of central military commission (Sept. 2009) 49407

Corruption:

Announcement of measures for disclosure of assets of officials (Sept. 2009) 49407

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Death penalty:

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Execution of nine men for ethnic rioting in Xinjiang region (Nov. 2009) 49522

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Display of naval power on 60th anniversary of People's Liberation Army (April 2009) 49142

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Deaths of 16 people in explosion at factory storing illegally stockpiled explosives (June 2009) 49256

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Over 70 deaths in gas-explosion at mine in Shanxi province (Feb. 2009) 49044

Over 80 deaths in landslide in Jiwei Mountain area (June 2009) 49256

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Drought:

Cloud seeding campaign in northern China to alleviate severe drought (Feb. 2009) 49043

Economy:

Concern over social unrest due to factory closures and unemployment (Jan. 2009) 48989

Expression of concern about state of US economy and effect on Chinese foreign exchange holdings (March 2009) 49091

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- Figures on economic growth an indication of recovery (Oct. 2009) 49464
- Rapid rise in unemployment (Feb. 2009) 49043
- Revelation of deepening economic problems (Feb. 2009) 49043
- Revision of figures for growth (Jan. 2009) 48988-89
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- Statistics on rise in economic growth (Dec. 2009) 49576
- Violent protests by workers in Tonghua over plans to cut jobs at steel plant (July 2009) 49312

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 - Declaration of peaceful period of bilateral relations (March 2009) 49091
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 - Condemnation of execution of UK national (Dec. 2009) 49576-77
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- USA
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 - Criticism of US responsibility for global financial crisis (Jan. 2009) 48989
 - Criticism by US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on restrictions on Tiananmen Square commemoration (June 2009) 49255
 - Criticism by US state department report on human rights (Feb. 2009) 49044
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 - Promise by President Obama of bilateral co-operation on trade, environment and global security (Nov. 2009) 49521
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Great Wall:

- Discovery of new sections of Great Wall of China (April 2009) 49143

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 - New measures to control spread of H5N1 virus (Jan. 2009) 48989
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- New scheme to increase human organ supplies (Aug. 2009) 49357
- Outbreak of pneumonic plague in Qinghai province (Aug. 2009) 49357-58
- Plan for reform of healthcare system to provide universal access (April 2009) 49142

Human rights:

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- First national human rights action plan (April 2009) 49142
- Opening of trial of former leader of 1989 Tiananmen Square protests (Nov. 2009) 49522
- Report of detention in unofficial prisons of individuals visiting Beijing for redress of local grievances (Nov. 2009) 49521-22
- Sentencing of human rights activist for possession of state secrets (Nov. 2009) 49522

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- Attempt to strengthen controls over pornographic and politically sensitive sites (June 2009) 49255
- Campaign against websites carrying "vulgar" or pornographic images (Jan. 2009) 48989

Media:

- Heavy restrictions on speech by US President Obama (Nov. 2009) 49521

National People's Congress:

- Annual session (March 2009) 49091
- Warning on global economic crisis (March 2009) 49091

Nuclear issues:

- Announcement of plans to build five nuclear power stations (April 2009) 49142-43

President:

- Five-country overseas visit by Hu Jintao and signing of co-operation agreements (Feb. 2009) 49044

Security:

- Comparative openness of reporting of serious violence in Xinjiang province between Uighurs and Han Chinese (July 2009) 49312
- Conviction of businessman for insider trading (Jan. 2009) 48989
- Formal arrest of prominent dissident Liu Xiaobo (June 2009) 49255
- Freeing of waitress convicted of murder of Communist Party official who tried to rape her (June 2009) 49255-56
- Sentencing of veteran dissident for "subversion of state power" (Jan. 2009) 48989

Sichuan province:

- Ceremony to mark first anniversary of earthquake (May 2009) 49207-08
- Repression of inquiries into poor construction of schools destroyed in earthquake (May 2009) 49208

Tiananmen Square:

- Commemorative rally heavily policed (June 2009) 49255
- Government sensitivity over approaching 20th anniversary (May 2009) 49208
- Publication of memoirs of Zhao Ziyang (May 2009) 49208

Tibet:

- Denouncement by Dalai Lama of Chinese occupation (March 2009) 49091
- Deployment of extra forces and security clamp-down at 50th anniversary uprising against Chinese rule (March 2009) 49091-92
- Deployment of large numbers of troops before Tibetan new year (Feb. 2009) 49044

Transport:

- Start on construction of world's longest sea bridge linking Guangdong province to Hong Kong and Macao (Dec. 2009) 49576

Trial:

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- Sentencing of six men for crimes during ethnic rioting in Xinjiang (Oct. 2009) 49464

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- Freeing of waitress convicted of murder of Communist Party official who tried to rape her (June 2009) 49255-56

Xinjiang province:

- Serious ethnic violence between Uighurs and Han Chinese (July 2009) 49311-12
- Serious unrest after alleged attacks on Han people by Uighurs armed with hypodermic syringes (Sept. 2009) 49406-07

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- Andres Fernandez Acosta as minister of agriculture (Feb. 2009) 49029
- Gabriel Silva Lujan as defence minister (July 2009) 49308

COLOMBIA (contd)

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- Change (Feb. 2009) 49029

Constitution:

- Approval by Chamber of Deputies of referendum on proposed reforms (Sept. 2009) 49397
- Approval by Senate of referendum on proposed reforms (May 2009) 49195

Economy:

- Approval by IMF of drawing rights under Flexible Credit Line (May 2009) 49195

FARC (Columbian Revolutionary Armed Forces):

- Announcement of intention of FARC to join forces with National Liberation Army (ELN) (Dec. 2009) 49565
- Bomb attack in Bogota (Jan. 2009) 48978
- Broadcast of video of 10 hostages (Sept. 2009) 49397
- Claim of responsibility for execution of indigenous Indians (Feb. 2009) 49028-29
- Death of nine soldiers in attack by FARC rebels (Nov. 2009) 49512
- Deaths in mortar attacks in Roberto Payana (Jan. 2009) 48978
- Discovery of caves used by FARC in Meta province (March 2009) 49080
- Discovery of mass graves (Sept. 2009) 49397
- Extradition to USA of 10 suspected FARC rebels (Sept. 2009) 49397
- Extradition to USA of former FARC commander Gerardo Aguilar Ramirez (July 2009) 49308
- Kidnap and murder of governor of Caquetá department Luis Francisco Cuellar (Dec. 2009) 49565
- Release of six hostages including former governor of Meta department (Feb. 2009) 49028
- Release of Swedish hostage (March 2009) 49080
- Release of video of two hostages (Aug. 2009) 49352
- Suspension of sentences for senior FARC rebels Nelly Avila Moreno and Raúl Agudelo (March 2009) 49080

Foreign relations:

- UK
 - End of military aid because of human rights concerns (April 2009) 49136
- USA
 - Provisional agreement on Defence Co-operation Agreement (Aug. 2009) 49352
 - Signing of Defence Co-operation Agreement (Nov. 2009) 49512
- Venezuela
 - Claims by President Hugo Chávez of Colombian aggression (Dec. 2009) 49565
 - Poor relations exacerbated by destruction of pedestrian border bridge by Venezuelan forces (Dec. 2009) 49565

Political parties:

- Election of Juan Manuel Santos as leader of Party of the "U" (Dec. 2009) 49565-66
- Reform bill to reduce vulnerability to infiltration by illegal armed groups (June 2009) 49250

President:

- Award by US President Bush of Presidential Medal of Freedom to President Alvaro Uribe Velez (Jan. 2009) 48978
- Visit by President Uribe Velez to USA and meeting with President Obama (June 2009) 49250

Resignations:

- Agriculture Minister Andrés Felipe Arias (Feb. 2009) 49029
- Defence Minister Juan Manuel Santos (May 2009) 49195

Security:

- Ambush of police patrol in town of Convencion (Feb. 2009) 49028
- Announcement of reform of intelligence services (Sept. 2009) 49397

COLOMBIA (contd)

- Arrest of businessman over collapse of illegal "pyramid" schemes (Aug. 2009) 49352
- Arrest of former head of intelligence service over 1989 killing of presidential candidate (Aug. 2009) 49352
- Arrest of most wanted drug baron Daniel Rendón Herrera (April 2009) 49136
- Claim by indigenous group about killing of members of Awa community (Feb. 2009) 49029
- Extradition of senior AUC commander Herbert Veloza Garcia to USA (March 2009) 49080
- Investigation into links between Vice President Francisco Santos Calderon and paramilitary AUC organisation (Oct. 2009) 49453
- Massacre of 12 members of Awa indigenous community in Narino department (Aug. 2009) 49352

Social issues:

- Demonstrations by indigenous citizens demanding restitution of lands and resources (Oct. 2009) 49453

Trial:

- Conviction of Gen. (retd) Jaime Humberto Uscátegui for role in 1997 massacre in Mapiripan (Nov. 2009) 49512

Union of South American Nations (UNASUR):

- Extraordinary summit to discuss proposed DCA with USA (Aug. 2009) 49352

COMMONWEALTH**Biennial Heads of Government Meeting, in Trinidad and Tobago:**

- Opening speech by Queen Elizabeth II (Nov. 2009) 49553

Fiji:

- Expulsion over failure to commit to negotiations with opposition (Sept. 2009) 49416

Rwanda:

- Admission as 54th member (Nov. 2009) 49553

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTH MARIANA ISLANDS**Corruption:**

- Conviction of lieutenant governor Timothy Villagomez for fraud and bribery (April 2009) 49155

Elections:

- Gubernatorial
- Provisional victory for incumbent Benigno R. Fitial (Nov. 2009) 49532

Resignation:

- Lieutenant governor Timothy P. Villagomez (April 2009) 49155

COMOROS**Aviation:**

- Survival of one young girl of crash of airliner into sea (June 2009) 49245

Cabinet:

- New (June 2009) 49245

Constitution:

- Approval by referendum of amendments including extension of presidential tenure (May 2009) 49190-91

Economy:

- Approval by IMF of funds under Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility (Sept. 2009) 49393

Elections:

- Legislative (Dec. 2009) 49563

CONGO**Cabinet:**

- Reshuffle (Sept. 2009) 49388; 49389

Corruption:

- Launch of French inquiry into personal fortune of president (May 2009) 49190

Election:

- Presidential (July 2009) 49302-03

CONGO (contd)**Foreign relations:**

- Visit of French President Nicolas Sarkozy (March 2009) 49074

Obituary:

- Kolelas, Bernard (former prime minister) (Nov. 2009) 49508

Opposition:

- Formation in exile of "parallel government" in Paris led by Tony Gilbert Moudilou (Oct. 2009) 49450

CONGO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF (DRC)**Death penalty:**

- Sentencing to death of two Norwegian men suspected of spying (Sept. 2009) 49393

Economy:

- Agreement on amendment of terms of Chinese investment deal (Aug. 2009) 49348
- Agreement by IMF to disbursement under Exogenous Shocks Facility (March 2009) 49074
- Agreement by IMF to funding under PRGF and HIPC initiatives (Dec. 2009) 49561

Foreign relations:

- Expulsion of some 28,000 Angolan refugees (Oct. 2009) 49449
- Visit of French President Nicolas Sarkozy (March 2009) 49074
- Visit of US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton (Aug. 2009) 49348

National Assembly:

- Election of Evariste Boshab as speaker (April 2009) 49129

Political parties:

- Formation of new Peasant Reconciliation and Development Party (April 2009) 49129

Refugees:

- Report of refugees from ethnic fighting in Equateur province (Nov. 2009) 49506

Resignation:

- Speaker of National Assembly Vital Kamerhe (March 2009) 49074

Security:

- Agreement by new leader of CNDP Bosco Ntaganda to ceasefire with government (Jan. 2009) 48969
- Arrest in Germany of two senior members of (Hutu) FDLR (Nov. 2009) 49506
- Arrest in Rwanda of rebel Tutsi leader Brig.-Gen. Laurent Nkunda (Jan. 2009) 48969
- Change of status by CNDP from rebel group to official political party (Feb. 2009) 49021
- Claims of excessive civilian casualties in recent military operation (Oct. 2009) 49449
- Joint operation with Rwandan troops against Hutu rebels (Jan. 2009) 48969
- Report of US military support for attack on Ugandan LRA in north-eastern DRC (Feb. 2009) 49021

Trial:

- Sentencing to death of two Norwegian men suspected of spying (Sept. 2009) 49393

UN:

- Resolution 1896 to extend and expand arms embargo on DRC (Dec. 2009) 49561
- Resolution 1906 to extend mandate of MONUC in DRC (Dec. 2009) 49561
- Unfavourable report on operations by MONUC in DRC (Nov. 2009) 49506

War crimes:

- Opening at ICC of trial of DRC militia leader Thomas Lubanga (Jan. 2009) 48969
- Opening of trials at ICC in The Hague of militia leaders Germain Katanga and Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui (Nov. 2009) 49506
- Order for interim release of former Vice President Jean-Pierre Bemba before trial (Aug. 2009) 49348
- Passing of amnesty law regarding acts in North and South Kivu (May 2009) 49186

COOK ISLANDS**Appointments:**

- Sir Terepai Maoate as foreign minister (July 2009) 49325
- Sir Terepai Maoate as minister of minerals and natural resources (April 2009) 49155

Cabinet:

- Changes (Dec. 2009) 49583

Dismissals:

- Deputy Prime Minister Sir Terepai Maoate (Dec. 2009) 49583
- Foreign Minister Wilkie Rasmussen (July 2009) 49325

Foreign relations:

- Formal claim to extend continental shelf (April 2009) 49155

COSTA RICA**Appointment:**

- Jorge Rodríguez as temporary environment and energy minister (March 2009) 49080

Cabinet:

- Changes (Aug. 2009) 49352

Constitution:

- Proposals for reforms to increase presidential powers (March 2009) 49080

Economy:

- IMF standby arrangement to manage global economic crisis (April 2009) 49139
- Stimulus package to protect against global crisis (Feb. 2009) 49031

Foreign relations:

- Ruling by International Court on control over San Juan river (July 2009) 49311

Law and legislation:

- Approval of electoral reforms (Aug. 2009) 49352

Obituary:

- Carazo Odio, Rodrigo (former president) (Dec. 2009) 49569

Resignation:

- Environment and Energy Minister Roberto Dobles (March 2009) 49080

Trial:

- Conviction of former President Rafael Angel Calderón Fournier for embezzlement (Oct. 2009) 49456

CÔTE D'IVOIRE**Disaster:**

- Deaths of 19 people in stampede at football stadium in Abidjan (March 2009) 49072

Economy:

- Approval of Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility (March 2009) 49072

Environment:

- Settlement of class action against oil trading company Trafigura over toxic waste dumping (Sept. 2009) 49388

UN:

- Resolution 1865 to renew mandates of UNOCI and of French forces in support (Jan. 2009) 48974
- Resolution 1880 to renew mandates of UNOCI and of French forces in support (Aug. 2009) 49349
- Resolution 1893 to renew arms embargo and ban on diamond trade (Nov. 2009) 49508

CROATIA**Appointments:**

- Finance Minister Ivan Suker as deputy prime minister (Nov. 2009) 49536
- Health Minister Darko Milinovic as deputy prime minister (Nov. 2009) 49536

Cabinet:

- Changes (Oct. 2009) 49485; (Nov. 2009) 49536
- New (July 2009) 49329-30

Elections:

- Presidential
- First round (Dec. 2009) 49592

CROATIA (contd)**EU:**

- Cancellation of next round of accession talks (April 2009) 49172
- Promise of resumption of accession talks (Sept. 2009) 49425; 49426
- Resumption of accession talks after lifting of veto by Slovenia (Oct. 2009) 49485
- Warning over border dispute with Slovenia (Feb. 2009) 49048

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- 50th anniversary of revolution (Jan. 2009) 48981

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- Reshuffle (March 2009) 49083

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- Revelation of role of sister of President Castro as informant for CIA in 1960s (Oct. 2009) 49456

Foreign relations:

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- Restoration of diplomatic relations with Costa Rica (March 2009) 49084
- Signing of strategic partnership agreement with Russia (Jan. 2009) 48981

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- Victory in TRNC elections of nationalist UBP seen as setback to reunification (May 2009) 49221
- Welcome by UN Security Council for progress in talks (Dec. 2009) 49588

Security:

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TRNC:

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- Call by Republican Assembly for early general election (Feb. 2009) 49061
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 - Legislative (April 2009) 49167-68
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- Fall of government (March 2009) 49099
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Economy:

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- Demonstration by trade unionists against measures to combat crisis (May 2009) 49221
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- Vote of no-confidence in government for management of economic crisis (March 2009) 49099

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 - Complaints by Canada over number of Czech asylum seekers (July 2009) 49331-32
 - Reimposition of visa requirements for Canadian diplomats and civil servants (July 2009) 49331-32
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 - Expulsion of two Russian diplomats (Aug. 2009) 49377

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Topolánek, former Prime Minister:

- Publication of nude photograph of Mirek Topolánek at villa of Silvio Berlusconi (June 2009) 49275

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- Execution of nine men for ethnic rioting in Xinjiang region (Nov. 2009) 49522
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- Intention of Supreme Court to reduce number of death sentences (July 2009) 49312
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- Sentencing of at least two Tibetans in connection with anti-government rioting (April 2009) 49142
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India:

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Iran:

- Execution of Kurdish activist Ehsan Fattihian (Nov. 2009) 49549
- Hanging of 13 members of Sunni rebel group Jundullah (July 2009) 49340
- Report of hanging of 22 convicted criminals (Jan. 2009) 49014

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- Sentencing of leader of Sunni Awakening Councils (Sahwa) Adil al-Mashhadani on charges of terrorism (Nov. 2009) 49549-50

Japan:

- Execution of four convicted prisoners (Jan. 2009) 48992
- Execution of three convicted murderers (July 2009) 49315

Jordan:

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- Sentencing of senior al-Qaida member Moammar al-Jaghbir for role in 2002 assassination of US diplomat (July 2009) 49341

Russia:

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Sudan:

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Tanzania:

- Imposition on three men for murder of albino boy (Sept. 2009) 49391

Togo:

- Abolition (June 2009) 49246

USA:

- Execution of man for role in 2002 sniper attacks in Washington DC (Nov. 2009) 49510
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Yemen:

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- Sentencing of seven militants connected to Shia Muslim al-Huthi group (July 2009) 49341
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- Budget (Jan. 2009) 49009; (Nov. 2009) 49546
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- Package of cuts in income tax to boost economy (March 2009) 49102

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- European Parliament (June 2009) 49269

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- Handover by Queen Margrethe of self-rule documents (June 2009) 49285

Prime Minister:

- Appointment of Lars Loekke Rasmussen (April 2009) 49170

Royal Family:

- Approval in referendum for change in succession to equal primogeniture (June 2009) 49290

Security:

- Arrest in USA of two Muslim men plotting attack on Danish newspaper (Oct. 2009) 49490
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- Demonstration in Copenhagen in support of 19 arrested Iraqi refugees (Aug. 2009) 49377
- Raising of terrorist threat level (Nov. 2009) 49546

Trial:

- Conviction of six members of Fighters+Lovers for financing terrorism by sale of T-shirts (March 2009) 49102

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BRIC Group (Brazil, Russia, India and China):

- First formal summit in Yekaterinburg, Russia (June 2009) 49297

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Zimbabwe:

- Call for end to smuggling of diamonds and army control of mining and trading (June 2009) 49245
- Review by Kimberley Process body of diamond industry and recommendation for monitoring (Nov. 2009) 49507

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- Reaffirmation of UN commitment to NPT (Sept. 2009) 49439

Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START):

- Declaration by UK of willingness to reduce arsenal as part of multilateral agreement (March 2009) 49104
- First talks between Russia and USA in Moscow (May 2009) 49224
- Negotiations between USA and Russia on replacement treaty (Dec. 2009) 49603
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UN:

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- To resume efforts to reduce nuclear weapons and control fissile material (Sept. 2009) 49435; 49440-41

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- Deaths of 16 people in explosion at factory storing illegally stockpiled explosives (June 2009) 49256
- Deaths of over 100 workers in gas explosion in coal mine in Heilongjiang province (Nov. 2009) 49522
- Over 70 deaths in gas explosion at mine in Shanxi province (Feb. 2009) 49044

Nigeria

- Deaths of up to 80 people in explosion on fuel tanker (Oct. 2009) 49446

Russia

- Two separate explosions during decommissioning of ammunition depot in Ulyanovsk (Nov. 2009) 49533

Tanzania

- Explosion at Mbagala military armoury (May 2009) 49186

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 - Royal commission on bush fires (April 2009) 49153; (Aug. 2009) 49366
- Canada
 - Evacuation of 17,000 people in Kelowna because of wildfires (July 2009) 49311
- Greece
 - Threat to northern suburbs of Athens of uncontrolled forest fires (Aug. 2009) 49377-78
- Kazakhstan
 - Deaths of 39 people in fire at drug treatment centre (Sept. 2009) 49402
- Kenya
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 - Deaths of 46 people in fire in wedding tent (Aug. 2009) 49379
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- Russia
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- South Africa
 - Deaths of illegal prospectors in fire at disused gold mine (June 2009) 49245
- UK
 - Deaths of six people in fire in council flats in London (July 2009) 49337

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 - Over 80 deaths in landslide in Jiwei Mountain area (June 2009) 49256
- El Salvador
 - After Hurricane Ida (Nov. 2009) 49511
- Indonesia
 - Nearly 100 deaths in collapse of Situ Gintung dam (March 2009) 49097
- Nepal (Oct. 2009) 49462
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 - Landslide at mining camp in Carabaya region (March 2009) 49080
- Philippines
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- Solomon Islands
 - On island of Guadalcanal (Feb. 2009) 49033
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Shipping:

- Australia
 - Oil spill off Queensland from tanker damaged in cyclone (March 2009) 49098
- Bangladesh
 - Deaths of 46 people in capsizing of ferry on River Daira (Dec. 2009) 49575
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 - Sinking of ferry on Kirtonhola river (Feb. 2009) 49038
- Benin
 - Deaths of over 50 people in capsized boat on Okpara river (Nov. 2009) 49508
- Burma
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 - Sinking of ferry off Mindanao (Sept. 2009) 49412
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- Vietnam
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- Shootings:**
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 - Killing of 13 students and teachers by gunman at State Oil Academy in Baku (April 2009) 49171
 - Germany
 - Shooting of 15 people by student at school near Stuttgart (March 2009) 49101
 - Turkey
 - Shooting dead of 44 people at wedding reception in Mardin province (May 2009) 49227
- USA
 - Mass shooting of army personnel at Fort Hood by serving Muslim military psychiatrist (Nov. 2009) 49510
 - Mass shooting at Binghamton, New York state (April 2009) 49135
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- Stampedes:**
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 - Deaths of 19 people in stampede at football stadium in Abidjan (March 2009) 49072
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 - Deaths of 25 people in fire on bus in Chengdu City (June 2009) 49256
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 - Crash of two express trains in Uttar Pradesh (Oct. 2009) 49459
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 - Crash of train carrying liquid petroleum gas into residential area of Viareggio (June 2009) 49283
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 - Deaths of over 100 people as result of crash of oil tanker (Feb. 2009) 49023
 - Russia
 - Derailing of Moscow to Petersburg *Nevsky Express* by homemade bomb killing 25 people (Nov. 2009) 49533
 - USA
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- Workplace:**
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 - Deaths of 26 miners in tin ore mine accident in Hunan province (Oct. 2009) 49464
 - Rescue of three miners from collapsed tunnel in Xinqiao mine after 25 days (July 2009) 49312
 - India
 - Deaths of at least 45 people in collapse of power plant chimney in Chhattisgarh state (Sept. 2009) 49405
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 - Deaths of 12 people in accident at hydro-electric power station in southern Siberia (Aug. 2009) 49376
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 - UN:**
 - Resolution 1862 expressing deep concern about border dispute with Eritrea (Jan. 2009) 48974

DOMINICA

Economy:

- Approval by IMF of arrangement under Exogenous Shocks Facility (July 2009) 49311

Elections:

- Legislative (Dec. 2009) 49568

Prime Minister:

- Swearing in of Roosevelt Skerrit for third term (Dec. 2009) 49568

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Constitution:

- Presentation of proposed reforms (Jan. 2009) 48980

Economy:

- Approval by IMF of standby credit facility (Nov. 2009) 49515
- Budget (Jan. 2009) 48980

DROUGHT AND FAMINE

Argentina:

- Tax exemptions to compensate farmers for drought (Jan. 2009) 48979

China:

- Cloud seeding campaign in northern China to alleviate severe drought (Feb. 2009) 49043

India:

- Official declaration of drought at end of weak monsoon season (Sept. 2009) 49405

Nepal:

- Water rationing in Kathmandu Valley due to drought and infrastructure failings (March 2009) 49089

Somalia:

- Emergency appeal by Oxfam for aid for those threatened by hunger in drought (Sept. 2009) 49390

DRUGS

Argentina:

- Ruling on legality of possession of small amounts of drugs (Aug. 2009) 49353

Colombia:

- Arrest of most wanted drug baron Daniel Rendón Herrera (April 2009) 49136

Honduras:

- Shooting dead of head of anti-drug trafficking Gen. (ret'd) Julian Aristides Gonzales (Dec. 2009) 49565

Mexico:

- Arrest of 10 mayors and senior officials on charges of drug-trafficking (May 2009) 49194
- New laws decriminalising possession of small amounts of drugs (Aug. 2009) 49351

UK:

- Chairman of Advisory Committee on Misuse of Drugs Professor David Nutt (Oct. 2009) 49482-83

UN:

- Summit to review campaign against illegal drugs (March 2009) 49123

USA:

- New guidelines to federal law enforcement officials on users and suppliers of marijuana (Oct. 2009) 49452
- New policy to favour treatment and rehabilitation (March 2009) 49077

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Afghanistan:

- Two earthquakes in Nangarhar region (April 2009) 49144

Australia:

- Minor earthquakes and heavy rains in Victoria state (Sept. 2009) 49415

Bhutan:

- Deaths of 12 people and widespread damage (Sept. 2009) 49417

EARTHQUAKES (contd)

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Considerable damage in Bahia Islands and coastal towns (May 2009) 49197

Indonesia:

Considerable damage in large earthquake of Java (Sept. 2009) 49414

Further earthquake on Sumatra (Oct. 2009) 49471

Official death toll of Padang earthquake (Oct. 2009) 49471

Two earthquakes off coast of West Papua province (Jan. 2009) 48995

Undersea earthquakes in eastern Indonesia (Oct. 2009) 49471

Widespread damage in Padang in large earthquake off Sumatra (Sept. 2009) 49414

Italy:

Deaths of nearly 300 people in severe earthquake and aftershocks in L'Aquila in Abruzzo region (April 2009) 49166-67

New Zealand:

Coast of South Island moved 30 cm westwards towards Australia by large earthquake (July 2009) 49325

Pacific Region:

Strong submarine earthquake causing tsunami affecting Samoa, American Samoa, and Tonga (Sept. 2009) 49417

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Ana Maria Pessoa Pereira da Sila Pinto as prosecutor general (March 2009) 49097
Longuinhos Montiero as commander of national police force (March 2009) 49097

Energy:

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Prime Minister:

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Security:

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Indictment of 28 people for 2008 coup attempt (March 2009) 49097

Trial:

Opening of trial of 28 people charged with attempted assassination of President Ramos Horta (July 2009) 49325

UN:

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War crimes:

Investigation by Australian Federal Police into 1975 killings of five journalists ("Balibo Five") (Sept. 2009) 49415

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ECUADOR

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Cabinet:

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Head of National Police Special Investigations Unit Major Manuel Silva (Feb. 2009) 49029

Economy:

Further default on international debt payment (March 2009) 49080

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Presidential and legislative (April 2009) 49136-37

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Foreign relations:

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Restoration of diplomatic relations (Nov. 2009) 49512

Expulsion of two US diplomats (Feb. 2009) 49029

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National Assembly:

Election of Fernando Cordero as president of Assembly (July 2009) 49353

President:

Inauguration of Rafael Correa for second term (Aug. 2009) 49352-53

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Interior Minister Fernando Bustamante (Feb. 2009) 49029

Security Minister Gustavo Larrea (Feb. 2009) 49029

Social issues:

Protests by indigenous community against government water policy (Oct. 2009) 49453

EGYPT

Foreign relations:

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Tension with Hezbollah over Gaza Strip (April 2009) 49175

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Visit by President Barack Obama (June 2009) 49294; 49295

Visit by President Hosni Mubarak for talks with President Obama (Aug. 2009) 49381

Health:

Cull of all pigs because of "swine flu" (A(H1N1)) virus (May 2009) 49234

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Minister of Transport Muhammad Yunis Mansur Lutfi Mansur (Oct. 2009) 49495

Security:

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Arrest of further 17 members of Muslim Brotherhood (April 2009) 49175

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Arrest of seven people connected with Al-Qaida after February bombing of tourist site in Cairo (May 2009) 49234

Charging of 26 supporters of Hezbollah with conspiracy to terrorism (July 2009) 49342

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EL SALVADOR

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EL SALVADOR (contd)

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Victory for Mauricio Funes of main

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Political parties:

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President:

Inauguration of Mauricio Funes (June 2009) 49249

Security:

Deployment of army to help deal with rising crime (Nov. 2009) 49511

Protest in Legislative Assembly by FMLN supporters (May 2009) 49197

Storms and floods:

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Mapping of Gamburtsev range of mountains (Feb. 2009) 49069

Research on shrinking of Pine Island glacier (Aug. 2009) 49382

Study confirming warming on whole continent (Jan. 2009) 49015

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Arrest of mayors in two cities on bribery charges (Feb. 2009) 49046

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Execution of four convicted prisoners (Jan. 2009) 48992

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Preparation for naval deployment off Somalia against pirates (Jan. 2009) 48991-92

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Visit by US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton (Feb. 2009) 49045-46

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Prime Minister:

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President:

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Security:

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Readiness of new Niger Patriotic Front faction to negotiate for peace (March 2009) 49076

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Ekiti state rerun (May 2009) 49190

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- Presidential
 - First round (March 2009) 49099-100
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 - Return of former Prime Minister Sir Allan Kemakeza (Nov. 2009) 49529-30

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- Election of Frank Ofagioro Kabui (June 2009) 49266

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Appointment of five members (April 2009) 49153

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Suicide truck bomb attack by Shabab Islamist militants on main AU peacekeeping base in Mogadishu (Sept. 2009) 49390

Cabinet:

Assassination of National Security Minister Umar Hashi Adan (June 2009) 49243

Killing of three ministers in bomb attack at Shamo Hotel (Dec. 2009) 49560

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Laden, Osama bin:

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Declaration of state of emergency (June 2009) 49243

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Puntland:

Approval of new constitution (May 2009) 49187

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Report of thousands of refugees from Mogadishu in Dadaab camp in Kenya (June 2009) 49243

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Beginning of withdrawal of Ethiopian troops from Mogadishu (Jan. 2009) 48968

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Demonstration against Shabab insurgents after bomb attack at Shamo Hotel (Dec. 2009) 49560

Escape of one of two French security advisers in Mogadishu (Aug. 2009) 49347

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Fighting in Mogadishu between AU troops and Shabab insurgents (Aug. 2009) 49347

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Heavy fighting in Mogadishu between Islamist Shabab insurgents and AMISOM forces (Oct. 2009) 49448

International donors' conference to provide funding to counter piracy (April 2009) 49130

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Killing by masked gunmen of radio journalist (June 2009) 49243

Murder of five Pakistani Muslim preachers (Aug. 2009) 49347

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Appearance on UK television of UK couple kidnapped in October (Nov. 2009) 49505

Capture of 11 suspected pirates in French assault on pirate "mother ship" (April 2009) 49130

Capture of Chinese bulk carrier *De Xin Hai* (Oct. 2009) 49448

Capture by French ship of five suspected pirates (Oct. 2009) 49448

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Demand for ransom for UK couple kidnapped in October (Oct. 2009) 49448-49

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Release of Chinese bulk carrier *De Xin Hai* after payment of ransom (Dec. 2009) 49560

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Suicide truck bomb attack by Shabab Islamist militants on main AU peacekeeping base in Mogadishu (Sept. 2009) 49390

Somaliland:

Extension of term of office of President Dahir Riyale Kahin (Sept. 2009) 49390

Trial:

Plea of not guilty by teenager charged with piracy on US ship *Maersk Alabama* (May 2009) 49187

UN:

Resolution 1863 to establish UN peacekeeping operation in Somalia (Jan. 2009) 48968

Resolution 1872 to extend mandate of AMISON mission (May 2009) 49186-87

Resolution 1897 to renew authorisation to states to "use all necessary means" to fight piracy (Dec. 2009) 49560

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Appointments:

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Postponement of hearing on corruption charges against Jacob Zuma (Feb. 2009) 49021

Reinstatement by Supreme Court of Appeal of charges against ANC leader Jacob Zuma (Jan. 2009) 48973

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Deaths of illegal prospectors in fire at disused gold mine (June 2009) 49245

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- Opening of trial of former police chief Jacob Selebi on corruption charges (Oct. 2009) 49444

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Zimbabwe:

- Appointment of South African President Jacob Zuma as facilitator (Nov. 2009) 49507
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Asteroids:

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European Space Agency:

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- Postponement of launch of *ExoMars* mission to 2018 (July 2009) 49344

Gamma rays:

- Detection in April of massive gamma ray burst some 13 billion light years away (Oct. 2009) 49498
- Powerful burst in deep space linked to explosion of giant star (April 2009) 49177
- Recording by NASA of largest burst of gamma rays in deep space (Feb. 2009) 49068

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- Launch of space shuttle to repair telescope (May 2009) 49235

India:

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- Launch of shuttle *Endeavour* on mission to attach external experiment platform (July 2009) 49344
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- Launch of unmanned H-II Transfer Vehicle to dock with ISS (Sept. 2009) 49439

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- First phase of array of radio telescopes centred on Jodrell Bank, UK (April 2009) 49177-78

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- Re-assessment of size of Milky Way (Jan. 2009) 49016

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NASA:

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Satellites:

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- First known collision of orbiting satellites (Feb. 2009) 49068
- Recording by PAMELA orbiting space mission of particles possibly emitted by "dark matter" (April 2009) 49177

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- Launch of *Endeavour* on mission to attach external experiment platform to International Space Station (July 2009) 49344

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- Study suggesting black holes preceded galaxies and were involved in star formation (Jan. 2009) 49016

Spacecraft:

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- Launch of telescope to survey entire sky (Dec. 2009) 49603

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Basque country:

- Arrest of 34 people suspected of membership of radical Basque youth organisation Segi (Nov. 2009) 49541
- Arrest of eight members of separatist groups for suspected links with ETA (Jan. 2009) 49003
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- Attack by hooded attackers on bus in Durango (Oct. 2009) 49480
- Bomb attack on two Civil Guards on Majorca (July 2009) 49335
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- Car bomb at Civil Guard barracks in Burgos (July 2009) 49335
- Car bomb explosion in Madrid targeting company involved in high-speed rail link (Feb. 2009) 49057
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- Detention of suspected ETA member at Hendaye (Aug. 2009) 49370
- Discovery of arms cache in south-west France (June 2009) 49281
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- Election of Pabxí López as regional president (May 2009) 49217
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- Foiling of escape of ETA members from Huelva prison (June 2009) 49281
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 - New non-nationalist coalition (March 2009) 49105
- Reiteration of government refusal to negotiate with ETA (Aug. 2009) 49370
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- Threat by ETA of campaign of attacks on UK tourists and second-home buyers (May 2009) 49217
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Catalonia:

- Symbolic referendum on independence (Dec. 2009) 49587
- Vote in regional assembly to consider ban on bullfighting (Dec. 2009) 49587

Corruption:

- Arrest of 18 people in Zaragoza province on suspicion of local government corruption (March 2009) 49105
- Publication of court documents in connection with bribery scandal in Popular Party (Oct. 2009) 49480

Defence:

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- Surge in military recruitment (Jan. 2009) 49004

SPAIN (contd)**Economy:**

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- Budget of austerity measures to cut deficit (Sept. 2009) 49422
- Central bank rescue of regional savings bank Caja Castilla La Mancha (March 2009) 49105
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- Expression of concern by central bank governor on pension system (April 2009) 49164-65
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- Prediction of contraction in GDP (June 2009) 49280-81
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- Success of PP and PSOE parties (June 2009) 49273

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- Basque country (March 2009) 49105
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- Apology for landing of maritime civil guards on Gibraltar in pursuit of smugglers (Dec. 2009) 49587
- Formal complaint about forthcoming visit to Gibraltar of Princess Royal (Feb. 2009) 49057

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- Formal protest at US agreement to exchange tax information with Gibraltar (May 2009) 49217
- Reinstatement of charges against three US soldiers for death in Iraq of Spanish cameraman (May 2009) 49217

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- Drowning of over 20 African migrants off Canary Islands (Feb. 2009) 49057
- Failure of cash incentive for migrants to return home (Jan. 2009) 49003-04
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- Vote to narrow "universal justice" law to cases with clear link to Spain (June 2009) 49281

Law and legislation:

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- One-day strike by judges in protest against understaffing and lack of resources (Feb. 2009) 49056

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- Removal of last statue of General Franco (March 2009) 49105

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- Election of Alberto Núñez Feijóo as president of Galicia regional government (April 2009) 49165
- Election of José Antonio Griñán as president of Andalucía regional government (April 2009) 49165
- Extra funding for 17 regions (July 2009) 49335
- New coalition deal in Basque regional government (April 2009) 49165

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- Director of National Intelligence Centre Alberto Saiz (July 2009) 49335
- Justice Minister Mariano Fernández Bermejo (Feb. 2009) 49056

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- Detention on international warrant of Turkish Kurd suspect Remzi Kartal (March 2009) 49106
- Opening of criminal case against seven senior Israelis in connection with assassination of Hamas leader (Jan. 2009) 49004

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- Vote in Congress of Deputies to relax abortion law (Dec. 2009) 49587

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Trials:

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- Fourteen people on charges of involvement with Islamist terrorist groups (Feb. 2009) 49057
- Opening of prosecution of suspected military leader of ETA Miguel de Garikoitz Aspiazu Rubina (Txeroki) (Sept. 2009) 49422
- Opening of trial of nine Muslims charged with membership of Moroccan Islamist Combatant Group responsible for Casablanca and Madrid train bombings (Sept. 2009) 49422
- Release of nine North African suspected members of terrorist groups (March 2009) 49105-06

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- Adml Tisara Samarasinghe as chief of defence staff (Nov. 2009) 49519
- Former TMVP rebel leader Vinayagamoorthis Muralitharan as minister for national reconciliation (March 2009) 49088
- Gen. Sarath Fonseka as chief of defence staff (July 2009) 49321
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- Economic crisis due to cost of war against LTTE (Oct. 2009) 49460

Elections:

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 - Jaffna (Aug. 2009) 49362
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 - Announcement of presidential and legislative elections before April 2010 (Oct. 2009) 49459

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- Rejection of appointment of Des Browne as UK special envoy (Feb. 2009) 49040
- Reports of refusal of UK visas to attorney general and two other officials (Sept. 2009) 49405
- Retraction of remarks by US Secretary of State on use of rape as weapon of war (Oct. 2009) 49460
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- Visit by Gen. Sarath Fonseka to USA without questioning by department of homeland security (Nov. 2009) 49519-20
- Visit by UK Foreign Minister David Miliband and French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner (April 2009) 49147-48

Human rights:

- Alleged government intimidation of international relief organisations (June 2009) 49260
- Call by UN High Commissioner Navenethem Pillay for inquiry into conduct of both sides in war (May 2009) 49199
- Detention of three doctors accused of collaboration with the LTTE during last weeks of war (June 2009) 49261
- EU report on abuses by state during last months of conflict with LTTE (Oct. 2009) 49460
- Expulsion of UNICEF spokesman James Elder for expression of concern over conditions in internment camps (Sept. 2009) 49405
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- Recantation by three doctors of reports on casualties in last stages of war (July 2009) 49321
- Report by monitoring group on last months of the war (June 2009) 49261
- Report by US state department on abuses by both LTTE and Sri Lankan Army (Oct. 2009) 49460
- Support from UNHRC for government conduct in human rights (May 2009) 49199

Inquiry:

- Closure of enquiry into 2006 massacre of local workers for French aid agency (July 2009) 49321

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- Arrest of popular astrologer for prediction of ousting of President Rajapakse (June 2009) 49261
- Arrest of Tamil newspaper editor for criticism of military offensive (Feb. 2009) 49040
- Arrest of UK journalists in Trincomalee (May 2009) 49201
- Assassination of prominent newspaper editor Lasantha Wickrematunga (Jan. 2009) 48982
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- Kidnapping and subsequent release of two journalists (June 2009) 49261
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- Prebhakaran, Velupillai (LTTE leader) (May 2009) 49199

SRI LANKA (contd)**Political parties:**

- Defection of two prominent UNP legislators in protest at UNP support for Fonseka (Dec. 2009) 49574
- Formation of opposition coalition to fight national elections (Nov. 2009) 49519

Refugees:

- Establishment by government of refugee camps for civilians (Feb. 2009) 49040
- Increased rate of resettlement of internally displaced persons (Nov. 2009) 49520
- Issuing of identity cards to IDPs (Nov. 2009) 49520
- Permission for remaining Tamil civilians to leave camps (Dec. 2009) 49574
- Plans for release of internally displaced persons in camps (July 2009) 49321
- Rejection of reports of deaths from disease or starvation in camps around Vavuniya (July 2009) 49320-21
- Serious concerns about conditions of detention of Tamil civilians in "welfare villages" (June 2009) 49260

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